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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 USIA-06
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/095 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8028

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 07583

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, AORG
SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR TORRES AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF US NATIONAL COMMISSION GUERRA-MONDRAGON WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW

1. ON FEB. 28 AMBASSADOR TORRES AND MR. GUERRA-MONDRAGON PAID A VISIT TO THE DG M'BOW. PRIOR TO THIS MEETING THE AMBASSADOR AND MR. GUERRA-MONDRAGON BRIEFLY MET WITH MR. JOHN KABORE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL/CPX. MR. KABORE GENERALLY SPOKE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL COMMISSIONS TO UNESCO'S SECRETARIAT AND THE SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF THE US NATIONAL COMMISSION.

2. AFTER THE BRIEF COURTESY VISIT, MR. KABORE DIRECTED AMBASSADOR TORRES AND GUERRA-MONDRAGON TO M'BOW'S OFFICE. MR. KABORE WAS PRESENT DURING THE 45-MINUTES VISIT. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, WHO HAD ORIGIANLLY REQUESTED TO MEET WITH MR. GUERRA-MONDRAGON, IMMEDIATELY PROCEEDED TO EXPRESS HIS SATISFACTION AND PLEASURE WITH US NATIONAL COMMISSION'S WORK AND WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN THE COMMISSION'S AFRICAN DIASPORA
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PROJECT. HE HAD INFORMALLY HEARD ABOUT THE COMMISSION'S PROJECT THROUGH MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARIAT AND DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO PORT-AU-PRINCE TO ATTEND A UNESCO MEETING OF EXPERTS IN THE FIELD OF SLAVE TRADE TO THE NEW WORLD. AMBASSADOR JONES AND MEMBERS OF THE HAITIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION MENTIONED TO HIM THE RECENT VISIT OF MR. GUERRA-MONDRAGON TO THE

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CARIBBEAN IN LATE SUMMER 1976 INVOLVING THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED PROJECT.

3. M'BOW WAS MOST PLEASED AND ENTHUSIASTIC WITH THE ROLE AND INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE US NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE PROJECT. HE WISHED TO BE KEPT ABREAST ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE PROJECT, GAVE HIS PERSONAL SUPPORT TO IT, AND EXPRESSED THE NEED FOR THE COMMISSION TO WORK CLOSELY WITH UNESCO'S SECRETARIAT. MOST IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, WAS HIS INTEREST IN HAVING SO MANY NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FROM LATIN AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN, THE US AND AFRICA INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT. (THESE JOINT COMMISSION PROJECTS HAVE BEEN URGED BY UNESCO'S SECRETARIAT, WITH NO APPARENT SUCCESS. THIS PROPOSED PROJECT, THEREFORE, FITS THE SECRETARIAT'S MOLD).

4. THE DG EXPRESSED ENTHUSIASM ABOUT HIS FORTH-COMING TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE PROBABILITY THAT HE WOULD MEET WITH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS AND US NATIONAL COMMISSION MEMBERS.

5. THE REST OF THE VISIT WAS SPENT WITH THE USUAL COURTEOUS EXCHANGES AND SOME OTHER IMPORTANT AND SENSITIVE SUBJECTS RAISED BY M'BOW WITH AMBASSADOR TORRES.
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TORRES

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